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The BRITISH AMERICAN.

NUMBER V.

FRIENDS, FELLOW CITIZENS, and COUNTRYMEN,

IT is not my intention to inflame your minds, in pointing out the many privileges you have already loſt, but to rouze you to a ſteady oppoſition to the meaſures now purſuing to deprive you of what few ſtill remain. I ſhall therefore, inſtead of entering minutely into every branch of the old Engliſh conſtitution, whoſe ſole object is, or rather was, political liberty, confine myſelf to that part of it which relates to legiſlation and taxation only. But in order to be thoroughly underſtood, it will be neceſſary to premiſe, that in ancient times, beſides the palaces for the reſidence, there were particular funds and lands ſet apart, whoſe yearly profits ſupplied the domeſtic expences, and ſupported the ſplendor, of the kings of England. Theſe were called the ancient demeſnes of the crown, and were not only abundantly ſufficient to anſwer thoſe purpoſes, but ſometimes enabled our monarchs to repel, at their own private expence, any ſudden or unforeſeen hoſtile attacks upon the kingdom. Thus the great queen Elizabeth (under whoſe reign our anceſtors firſt emigrated) inſtead of aſking ſupplies of her parliament, generally demanded reimburſements only for what ſhe had actually advanced for the general good. And even theſe ſhe often generouſly remitted to her ſubjects.

The legiſlature of England conſiſted of three diſtinct branches. The firſt was the monarch, whoſe ample hereditary revenues enabling him to ſupport the dignity of his rank, removed all temptation to oppreſs either of the other two; becauſe nobly provided for himſelf, he was under no neceſſity of aſking any ſupplies from his parliament, but ſuch as were neceſſary for the general good of the whole community. Independent of any power upon earth, for the ſupport of himſelf and family, he was equally above the temptation of being corrupted himſelf, or of endeavouring to corrupt the parliament. The ſecond conſiſted of the houſe of lords, a body of men, who on account of their great wealth or merit, and generally both, were ennobled by the monarch; and as their titles and power, when once created, were hereditary, they were not only independent, but were equally intereſted, in preſerving the legal prerogatives of the crown, and the juſt privileges of the people. The prerogatives of the crown, becauſe as they derived their very exiſtence from the monarch, if his legal power was annihilated, theirs muſt neceſſarily be extinguiſhed with it; as the ſtream will ceaſe to flow when the fountain from whence it ſprung is dried up. As hereditary guardians of the realm, it was equally their intereſt to preſerve the privileges of the people, becauſe however diſtinguiſhed by rank or title, they themſelves, as part of the community, muſt finally feel any oppreſſion exerciſed by the ſovereign over their fellow ſubjects.

The third branch of the legiſlature conſiſted of the people at large, by which every native had a right to vote; for in thoſe days it was thought unreaſonable that the life, liberty, or property, of any man, ſhould be affected by any law which he did not conſent to, or at leaſt which he had not a right to oppoſe.

But theſe tumultuous aſſemblies of the people being found from experience not only inconvenient but abſolutely impracticable, as a majority of the whole kingdom could never meet at any one place to deliberate upon the affairs of the kingdom, it became cuſtomary for the inhabitants of different counties, and large cities and towns, to delegate the wiſeſt of their neighbours to repreſent them in the legiſlature, and to ſpeak the ſentiments of their electors, on the general concerns of the kingdom: Theſe formed the houſe of commons. In proceſs of time, this right of delegation was confined to thoſe who had a freehold in lands, of a particular value, becauſe, as I have obſerved in a former letter, the owners of the ſoil were not only ſuppoſed to be the beſt judges of what was for the benefit of the kingdom, but becauſe they were leſs liable to be corrupted, to prejudice a country in which they themſelves were permanently intereſted.

Happy had it been for England that this wiſe regulation had never been altered; and happier ſtill, if the right of voting for repreſentatives had been confined to the freeholders of counties only, and not extended to cities and corporations, which, however populous and opulent formerly, are now ſcarce the ſhadows of what they were. But to return to my ſubject.

In the monarch was veſted the power of convening the other two bodies of the legiſlature, of laying before them the ſtate of the kingdom, with reſpect to foreign alliances, and of recommending to their conſideration any plans which he judged for the benefit of the nation; and after having done this, he retired and left them to deliberate and to form what reſolutions they pleaſed, either upon the plans thus recommended, or upon any others which they thought proper, and ſo far as related to legiſlation only, the lords and commons had an equal right of propoſing, and of altering or amending, reſolutions propoſed by each other. The king had no power of altering or amending, but, by with-holding his aſſent, might reject any reſolution of the other two branches altogether.

To have inveſted him with a power of altering would have been dangerous to liberty; becauſe of all laws reſpecting the ſubject, the lords, who were the repreſentatives of the higher, and the commons, who repreſented the lower ranks of the people, were the propereſt judges; becauſe they would ſhare in the advantages and diſadvantages of thoſe laws. But as the king might receive the emoluments, but could not ſhare in the inconveniencies, if he had been allowed to have interfered in altering or amending ſuch, the nation might have been cruelly oppreſſed; for as all honours flowed from the crown, a deſire of acquiring thoſe honours might have induced the commons. Hope of enlarging thoſe already conferred might have influenced the lords to have ſhewn ſuch complaiſance to the alterations of the crown as would have been inconſiſtent with the good of the community. Wiſdom, as well as delicacy, therefore, excluded the temptation. The king's right of rejecting altogether was a ſufficient barrier againſt all encroachments on the rights of the ſovereign, ſince no reſolutions had the force of laws till they received the concurrence of a majority of the lords and commons, and were approved of and aſſented to by the king.

Taxation was fixed upon a very different foundation. The houſe of commons claimed and exerciſed the ſole right of propoſing taxes, of pointing out the ways and means, of levying ſupplies, and of framing the bills, by the authority of which they were to be collected, and ſo extremely jealous were they of this privilege, that they never would ſuffer either of the other branches of the legiſlature to make the ſmalleſt alteration, either in the form or ſubſtance of a ſupply bill.

This excluſive privilege was founded upon very juſt grounds. The reaſons I have already given, in treating of legiſlation, are doubly cogent to reſtrain the king (who was to apply, or rather expend, the money raiſed) from exerciſing any other power over a money bill than that of rejecting; to which may be added another, that the repreſentatives of a people muſt ever be more capable than their prince of judging of the abilities of their conſtituents, and of knowing how much, and what ſpecies of their property, they can ſpare to preſerve the remainder. Nor are there wanting many and juſt reaſons to exclude the lords from interfering with this right exerciſed by the commons. In the firſt place, the whole wealth of a nation ariſes from the farmer, the grazier, the mechanic, and the trader; and as they are the very creators of money, they alone ought to have the public diſpoſition of it, becauſe they know its value, and have experienced the difficulty with which it is acquired. On the other hand, the lords poſſeſſed of immenſe wealth, tranſmitted to them by their anceſtors, and born (if I may be allowed the expreſſion) with ſilver ſpoons in their mouths, might be laviſh of the national treaſures, without duly conſidering with what anxiety, difficulties, and dangers, the bulk of the people have acquired the ſmall ſhare of it they poſſeſs. Again, a ſupply granted to the crown, which, with reſpect to the enormous fortunes of the nobility, would ſcarce deſerve the name of liberality, might amount almoſt to a confiſcation of the eſtates of the lower ranks of people, and reduce thouſands of their fellow ſubjects to diſtreſs, poverty, and ruin. On the other hand, it is difficult to ſuppoſe, that the repreſentatives of the labouring or trading part of the nation would, or could, be ſo extravagant in their ſupplies, as to injure the eſtates of the nobility; and if ſuch an unnatural caſe ſhould exiſt, the houſe of lords, by exerciſing their right of rejecting, would effectually ward off the blow. But if they had a power of even altering a money bill, they might model it in ſuch a manner as to exonerate, in a great meaſure, their own eſtates, and lay the whole burthen upon the commons, or at leaſt it would be a conſtant ſource of feuds and diſſentions between the two houſes, which would offer, to an enterprizing monarch, ſuch opportunities of ingratiating himſelf occaſionally with each as might endanger the conſtitution. *

From this ſtate of the Engliſh conſtitution, it is obvious to the moſt common obſerver, that if any one of its branches encroached upon the rights of another, it became the intereſt of the other two to unite in repelling the aggreſſor, ſince if either branches was annihilated, or even weakened, the other muſt neceſſarily fall a prey to the victor. If the commons attacked the lords, the crown neceſſarily interpoſed its authority to ſupport the injured rights of the nobility; for if they ſucceeded in deſtroying the rights of the nobility, ſuch an acquiſition of power, as would then devolve on them, would ſoon enable them to weaken, if not deſtroy, the prerogatives of the crown. If the lords encroached upon the privileges of the commons, our hiſtory afforded too many inſtances of the dreadful conſequences of the overgrown power of the barons to ſuffer the king to be an idle ſpectator, whilſt his nobles, by cruſhing the commons, would arrogate to themſelves the power of petty princes, and endanger the ſafety of the kingdom with internal commotions. If the king attacked the privileges of either of the other branches, or either of the others encroached upon the prerogatives of the crown, the third branch was too much intereſted in the diſpute to ſtand neuter, but readily aſſiſted the injured party, ſenſible that the only method of preſerving the true equilibrium of government was to ſuffer neither branch to oppreſs or even weaken the other.

Thus conſtituted, thus mutually intereſted, to ſupport each other, the king, lords, and commons, of England, formed the wiſeſt ſyſtem of legiſlation that ever did, or perhaps ever will, exiſt; for the three favourite forms of government, viz. monarchy, ariſtocracy, and democracy, poſſeſſed of their diſtinct powers, checked, tempered, and improved, each other. Nor was this excellence confined to forms alone. The characteriſtic principles of monarchy, ariſtocracy, and democracy, viz. honour, moderation, and virtue, were here ſo happily blended, as totally to exclude fear, that deſpicable ſpring of deſpotiſm and arbitrary ſway. The honour of monarchy tempered the impetuoſity of democracy, the moderation of ariſtocracy checked the ardent aſpiring honour of monarchy, and the virtue of democracy reſtrained the one, impelled the other, and invigorated both. In ſhort, no conſtitution ever bid ſo fair for perpetual duration as that of England, as none ever half ſo well deſerved it, ſince political liberty was its ſole aim, and the general good of mankind the principal object of its attention. Had this happy ſtate but recurred a little oftener to its firſt principles, it would have remained the envy, the admiration, of the whole world, and the delight of its moſt diſtant dominions, till time ſhall be no more. But, alas! all human inſtitutions are ſubject to decay; the very vitals of this amiable conſtitution are wounded, the glorious fabric already totters, and the time is approaching when it may be ſaid of this beautiful Byzantium:

That down the precipice of fate ſhe goes,
And ſinks in moments what in ages roſe.

To trace the ſteps of this diſorder, and point out what is likely to occaſion this ever to be lamented misfortune, ſhall be the ſubject of my next.

I ſhall conclude this with a word of advice to my fellow citizens of Virginia: Since my laſt, the writs have iſſued for chuſing your repreſentatives, returnable the 11th day of Auguſt next. Poſtpone your meeting in Williamſburg till that day; ſo ſhort a delay will be attended with little inconvenience. If the governor ſhould then meet you in aſſembly, you will have a conſtitutional opportunity of declaring the ſentiments, and of vindicating the rights, of thoſe you repreſent. But be not deceived. It is to be feared, that the governor will not, *cannot*, call the aſſembly together, till he receives letters from the miniſter in England, and that it will be prorogued before the 11th of Auguſt. If it ſhould, ſtill let the new repreſentatives of the people meet at that time; though they cannot as a legiſlative, yet they may as a collective body, declare the ſentiments of their conſtituents, and it is neceſſary, not only that our ſovereign but that the Britiſh parliament ſhould know thoſe ſentiments as ſoon as poſſible; otherwiſe an artful miniſter may impoſe upon them, and induce them to believe you have actually ſubmitted to a meaſure which I am convinced you never will ſubmit to, becauſe you ought not. I am, my countrymen,

A BRITISH AMERICAN.

* I have read other arguments againſt the houſe of lords exerciſing a right of altering money bills, but I confeſs they were not to me ſo convincing as the above. For inſtance, one was, that the wealth of the lords, compared to that of the commons of England, was but as a drop of water to the ocean. Suppoſe this to be true (though by the bye, it is a very large drop, and which, by their intermarriages with the rich heireſſes of the commons, is conſtantly encreaſing) yet a ſingle drop, when incorporated with, becomes as much a part of the ocean, and is as much intereſted in the general welfare of that ocean, as any other drop, and by the ſame purity of reaſoning, the whole ocean might, drop by drop, be excluded, till it ceaſed to be even a rivulet. I am induced to make this remark, from having read a ſimilar argument in a late pamphlet of a reverend author, who after obſerving that each member of the houſe of commons, when choſen, becomes the repreſentative of the whole kingdom, he has the following note: "Surely the nation might have expelled Mr. Wilkes, or have ſtruck his name out of the liſt of the committee, had it been aſſembled, or had it thought proper ſo to do. What then ſhould hinder the deputies of the nation from doing the ſame thing? And which ought to prevail in this caſe, the nation in general or the county of Middleſex?" Let it be obſerved, that if the whole body of the people had been aſſembled upon the national councils, no ſuch committee could have exiſted; the caſe ſuppoſed is therefore a non-entity. But admitting it otherwiſe, even a committee of the houſe of commons cannot exclude any member of that committee, but muſt apply to the houſe who conſtituted them a committee to make ſuch excluſion; that the houſe of commons have a right, by expelling any member, to appeal to the people who ſent him, whether ſuch member is unworthy to repreſent them. There can be no doubt, but if after ſuch an appeal the people re-elect him, they are ſurely bound to receive him. In ſuch an aſſembly as the reverend author ſpeaks of there can be no doubt but a majority of the whole kingdom may exclude the inhabitants of the county of Middleſex from any ſhare in the national councils, but from that inſtant they cannot exerciſe a conſtitutional right, either of legiſlation or taxation, over the county of Middleſex; and juſt ſo great a power as a majority of the nation can exerciſe over the inhabitants of a ſingle county, a majority of the repreſentatives of the nation, may exerciſe over the repreſentatives of a ſingle county. But the conſequence muſt be the ſame in both caſes.

THE following is a true copy of the petition preſented to the houſe of commons, and ſigned by moſt of the gentlemen of NORTH AMERICA, who are now in London, juſt before the Boſton *port bill* took place.

To the honourable the COMMONS *of* GREAT BRITAIN *in* PARLIAMENT *aſſembled.*

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF SEVERAL NATIVES AND INHABITANTS OF NORTH AMERICA,

SHEWETH,

"That your petitioners, being natives of his majeſty's dominions in America, are deeply intereſted in every proceeding of this honourable houſe, which touches the life, liberties, or property, of any perſon or perſons in the ſaid dominions. That your petitioners conceive themſelves and their fellow ſubjects entitled to the rights of natural juſtice, and to the common law of England, as their unalienable birthright; that they apprehend it to be an inviolable rule of natural juſtice, that no man ſhall be condemned unheard, and that according to law no perſon or perſons can be judged without being called upon to anſwer, and being permitted to hear, the evidence againſt them, and to make their defence. That it is therefore with the deepeſt ſorrow they underſtand that this honourable houſe is now about to paſs a bill to puniſh, with unexampled rigour, the town of Boſton, for a treſpaſs committed by ſome perſons unknown, upon the property of the Eaſt India company, without the ſaid town's being apprized of any accuſation brought againſt them, or having been permitted to hear the evidence, or to make their defence. Your petitioners conceive ſuch proceedings to be directly repugnant to every principle of law and juſtice, and that under ſuch a precedent no man, or body of men, in America, could enjoy a moment's ſecurity; for if judgment be immediately to follow an acculation againſt the people of America, ſupported even by perſons notoriouſly at enmity with them, the accuſed, unacquainted with the charge, and from the nature of their ſituation, utterly incapable of anſwering and defending themſelves, every fence againſt falſe accuſation will be pulled down, juſtice will no longer be their ſhield, nor innocence an exemption from puniſhment. Your petitioners beg leave to repreſent, that law, in America, miniſters redreſs for any injury ſuſtained there, and they can moſt truly affirm, that it is executed in that country with as much impartiality as in any other part of his majeſty's dominions. In proof of this, they appeal to an inſtance of great notoriety, in which, under every circumſtance that could exaſperate the people, and diſturb the courſe of juſtice, captain Preſton and his ſoldiers had a fair trial, and a favourable verdict. While the due courſe of law holds out redreſs for any injury ſuſtained in America, they apprehend the interpoſition of parliamentary power to be full of danger, and without any precedent. If the perſons who committed this treſpaſs are known, than the Eaſt India company have their remedy againſt them at law; if they are unknown, your petitioners cannot comprehend by what rule of juſtice the town can be puniſhed for a civil injury committed by perſons not known to belong to them. Your petitioners conceive that there is not an inſtance, even in the moſt arbitrary times, in which a city was puniſhed by parliamentary authority without being heard for a civil offence, not committed within their juriſdiction, and without redreſs having been ſought at common law. The caſes which they have heard adduced are directly againſt it. That of the king againſt the city of London was for a murder committed within its walls by its citizens in open day. But even then, arbitrary as the times were, the trial was public in a court of common law, the party heard, and the law laid down by the judges was, that it was an offence at the common law to ſuffer ſuch a crime to be committed in a walled town, *tempore diurno*, and none of the offenders to be known or indicted. The caſe of Edinburgh, in which parliament did interpoſe, was the commiſſion of an atrocious murder within her gates, and aggravated by an overt act of high treaſon, in executing, againſt the expreſs will of the crown, the king's laws. It is obſervable, that theſe cities had by charter the whole executive power within themſelves, ſo that a failure of juſtice neceſſarily enſued from their connivance. In both caſes, however, full time was allowed them to diſcharge their duty, and they were heard in their defence. But neither has time been allowed in this caſe, nor is the accuſed heard, nor is Boſton a walled town, nor was the fact committed within it, nor is the executive power in their hands as it is in thoſe of London and Edinburgh; on the contrary, the governor himſelf holds that power, and has been adviſed by his majeſty's council to carry it into execution. If it has been neglected, he alone is anſwerable; if it has been executed, perhaps at this inſtant, while puniſhment is inflicting here on thoſe who have not been legally tried, the due courſe of law is operating there to the diſcovery and proſecution of the real offenders. Your petitioners think themſelves bound to declare to this honourable houſe that they apprehend a proceeding of exceſſive rigour and injuſtice will ſink deep in the minds of their countrymen, and tend to alienate their affections from this country. That the attachment of America cannot ſurvive the juſtice of Great Britain. That if they ſee a different mode of trial eſtabliſhed for them, and for the people of this country, a mode which violates the ſacred principles of natural juſtice, it may be productive of national diſtruſt, and extinguiſh thoſe filial feelings of reſpect and affection which have hitherto attached them to the parent ſtate. Urged, therefore, by every motive of affection to both countries; by the moſt earneſt deſire, not only to preſerve their own rights, and thoſe of their countrymen, but to prevent the diſſolution of that love, harmony, and confidence, between the two countries, which was their mutual bleſſing and ſupport, your petitioners do moſt earneſtly beſeech this honourable houſe not to paſs the ſaid bill."

WHAT, Mrs. RIND, muſt aſtoniſhed AMERICA think, what dreadful abuſes muſt not its inhabitants feel, ſhould an act of parliament be paſſed, "that no *officer* in the ſervice of the crown in America ſhall be liable to any action or proſecution *whatever* there, but to be amenable *only* to the courts of judicature in England?" Yet, a correſpondent ſays, "you may depend it has been agitated in the cabinet, and it is determined to be carried into execution by an act of parliament!" *Quere*, ſhould ſuch an act paſs, removing crown officers from every reſtraint of the ſociety where they live, will it not be abſolutely neceſſary that the people among whom ſuch officers reſide conſider themſelves as in a ſtate of nature with reſpect to them, and execute ſpeedy juſtice on every tranſgreſſion?

Mrs. RIND,

BEING preſent at the patriotic meeting in WESTMORELAND, I was much pleaſed to ſee the order and decorum with which their buſineſs was conducted, and to find that they had deſired their proceedings to be publiſhed, becauſe it ſeems quite proper that the generous ſtruggles of *each* for the common liberty may be known to *all*. From hence moſt probably may reſult a ſyſtem of defence, which no cunning of a tyrant miniſter can overcome. The method of conquering by dividing has been ſo long known and practiſed by every wicked politician, from the greateſt in Europe down to the ſmall ones of our own nation, the lords Bute, Mansfield, and their agent North, that the world muſt be too well apprized of this ſyſtem to be miſled and deceived by ſo ſtale a practice.

The miniſter gave himſelf unneceſſary trouble when he declared the plan was to compel ſubmiſſion to the American taxation by ſubduing one colony at a time; the conduct of the miniſtry very ſufficiently proves this. All North America have repeatedly, but in vain, proteſted againſt this invaſion of their juſt rights, protected as they are by natural juſtice, by poſitive compact, and by immemorial uſage; ſanctions that have hitherto been reſpected by good men in all ages. In purſuit of this plan of op-

position, founded on principles of self-preservation, many colonies have with the tea ships repelled the revenue acts; but Boston, having been with much pains and singular care designedly forced by its enemies to go one small step farther than the rest, in order to furnish a pretext for attacking one colony at a time, they not only destroy the trade of Boston, and thereby ruin a great number of innocent people, but put it in the power of the crown forever to deprive many persons in that town of the most valuable property they possessed in wharfs and quays for landing and shipping goods. But this was not enough. The long possessed charter of Massachusetts Bay is by another act to be taken away, and their governor made more despotic than a Turkish bashaw. Nor has this been thought sufficient to quench every spark of liberty there, but a third act places every crown officer above the reach of law in the country where he lives, declaring him amenable only to the courts of justice in England, at the same time that every person in the Massachusetts government, who happens to be obnoxious to the ministry, that is, every honest and intelligent friend to his country, is made liable to be transported to the King's Bench in England for trial; a court that has for some years past, it is said, been extremely unfavourable to Englishmen and English law, and where, unhappily for the prisoner, the prosecution must be altogether persecution, there being no prospect of evidence but on one side, and the chance of the accused for escaping, however innocent, as small, as the act itself is certainly void of every particle of reason and justice. Is it not in violation of truth and common sense to call this act, which shakes the foundations of justice and that security which is reasonably expected from civil society, "An act for the impartial administration of justice in the cases of persons questioned for any acts done by them in the execution of the law, or for the suppression of riots and tumults in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in New England?" Would it not be much more properly entitled *An act to encourage every species of crime, by placing the perpetrators beyond the reach of just punishment, and to prevent every good man in the Massachusetts government from opposing the ruin of his country, by the terrors of a mock trial before a partial tribunal, three thousand miles removed from the residence of the accused?* It is surely impossible that any liberal mind can fail to glow with resentment at these Turquish strides to despotism in North America, hitherto the happy seat of liberty, virtue, and growing science. In vain did our brave and worthy ancestors, through infinite danger, expence, and toil, convert this savage wilderness into a civilized and cultivated country, if their descendants have not sense and virtue enough to defend it from the ravage and ruin of despotism; for what milder name can be given to the new claim of taxation, set up by a parliament removed from us a thousand leagues, whose members, nor their constituents, would pay any part of the tax they impose on us? Who from their distance, and ignorance of our situation and circumstances, can never judge rightly either of the quantity or quality of such tax, and who finally would not be restrained by that constitutional check against abuse, the being liable to be removed, by the people they injured, at a new election? Let not any person imagine that these unexampled abuses of Boston are intended only for her. The rod of despotism is in turn to be applied for the punishment of every colony that moves in defence of liberty. Let us therefore unite in time, never forgetting "THAT SMALL THINGS GROW GREAT BY CONCORD, AND THE GREATEST ARE LOST BY DISUNION." When the ministry practise the wicked advice of Machiavel, and constantly endeavour to divide us, let us follow the wise counsel of old Micipsa, and unite most firmly. Let us, on this great occasion, recur to the first principles and practices of the constitution, by informing the people in every county of their truly critical situation, and take their sense of what is fittest to be done for the public security. The representative body will thus be possessed of the opinions and desires of their constituents, in pursuing which they need not fear to be bravely and firmly supported.

A LOVER OF THE CONSTITUTION.

MR. RIND,

The inclosed PAPER, *founded on true constitutional principles, was handed about, much read, and much liked, at a late public meeting. You are requested,* MADAM, *to give it a place in your useful paper.*

HAMBDEN.

To the FREEHOLDERS and other INHABITANTS of the county of - - - - - - - - - -

FELLOW SUBJECTS,

IN most countries of the world the bulk of the people indulge but little in political discussions; in some it is death to speak of state affairs, and even in our mother country too frequent debates about government matters are esteemed prejudicial to the industry and morals of the people. If such a maxim is to be received here, without reservation, any attempts to open the eyes of the people at this alarming crisis may be deemed imprudence, if not criminal; nevertheless, when we hear of people who condemn all manner of resistance to government, we find ourselves irresistibly impelled to throw our mite into the opposite scale. National attachments and prejudices we despise, and we detest the sordid views of self-interest, to which the slaves of conveniency have too strong a bias. To such as on the authority of scripture incline to an implicit subjection to the higher powers we would observe, in general, that many texts of the scripture which were wisely adapted to the circumstances of the Jews and primitive christians, should in our days be used rather in aid of general principles than as particular rules of conduct. A British subject, who knows his birthright, looks on the English constitution to be the fountain head and centre of that higher power which commands his obedience. This constitution is a system of laws reared, as it would seem, and often favoured and protected, by the hand of providence. The king at his coronation is sworn to the maintenance and preservation of this system, and may well be considered as the prime minister or first servant of the constitution, to which, by a wrong use of the powers he is entrusted with, he may become the most dangerous foe. The excellence of this constitution, over any which exists in the known world, consists in the just balance of all its parts, which may be endangered by one part encroaching on the rights and privileges of the other. It may be greatly injured by the undue dependence of one, but it will be totally destroyed by two of the parts yielding their independence to the corrupt influence of the third. Whenever matters are arrived at this crisis, a wicked minister easily procures the consent of parliament to arbitrary acts, subversive of liberty, and diametrically opposite to the eternal laws of justice. To pursue the train of consequences would engage too much time here; be it sufficient, therefore, to observe, that power, thus exercised, is tyranny, ever odious to a brave, virtuous, and free people, and often opposed by our forefathers, in times less enlightened and informed than the present. Opposition to measures subversive of the constitution is no new doctrine in the history of England. It was on this principle that many royal favourites paid the forfeit of their lives, that Richard the second was deposed, Charles the first beheaded, and James the second obliged to quit the throne. To come nigher to our own case (amidst the distresses of the mother country, occasioned, in great measure, by the selfish and arbitrary politics of weak and wicked counsellors who surround the throne, and the corrupt compliance of ministers and parliaments) rapacity opens wide her mouth, and, inspired with the rage of taxation, has for nine or ten years past threatened to plunder all British America, in contradiction to a true principle of the constitution, which considers taxation as inseparable from representation. Different administrations, disregarding all the unanswerable arguments urged by your friends, have persisted in the favourite point of taxing you without your consent, and the hand of power is now stretched to force you to the payment of taxes, in the establishment of which your representatives had no part. Your tax-masters are charged with having often betrayed the rights and interests of *their constituents*: What then can *you*, on whom they have no dependence, and with whom no communication off sentiments, expect from them, but taxes without end, and unceasing oppression? For they will lighten their own burthens in proportion as they encrease yours; neither themselves, or the people that chuse them, being to pay any part of the taxes they impose on you. Will you put your fortunes, your liberties, and every thing that is held most dear among men, in their power, by submitting to their unjust taxation; or will you undergo some inconveniencies to avert the impending evils, and frustrate the designs, of your enemies, and the enemies of liberty and humanity? We mean only to excite your attention to such wise measures as may this day be proposed by the friends of their country's just rights, and persuade you to consider how shameful it will be if they alone, among so many people, are left to struggle in the cause of liberty and virtue. Go on, then; and by your unanimity and perseverance, strengthen the hearts and hands of those you appoint your representatives; exhibit an example worthy of imitation to other counties, nay, to whole provinces. Thus every liberal soul, now oppressed with anguish for the degeneracy of the country from which you sprung, and ardently wishing for its reformation, will receive comfort from your proceedings. When such a reformation is produced, we may have a more grateful, though not a more important occasion, of addressing you again. In the mean time, we wish you heartily farewell.

W. H O.

WILLIAMSBURG, JUNE 30.

AT *a respectable meeting of* FREEHOLDERS *and other* INHABITANTS *of the county of* WESTMORELAND, *assembled, on due notice, at the courthouse of the said county, on Wednesday the 22d day of June, 1774, the reverend Mr.* THOMAS SMITH *being first unanimously chosen moderator, several papers, containing the proceedings of the late* HOUSE OF BURGESSES *of this colony, and the subsequent determinations of the late representatives, after the house was dissolved, together with extracts of several resolves of the provinces of Massachusetts Bay, Maryland, &c. being read, the meeting proceeded seriously to consider the present dangerous and truly alarming crisis, when ruin is threatened to the ancient constitutional rights of* NORTH AMERICA, *and came to the following resolves.*

I. *That to be taxed solely in our provincial assemblies, by representatives freechosen by the people, is a right that British subjects in America are entitled to from natural justice, from the English constitution, from charters, and from a confirmation of these by usage, since the first establishment of these colonies.*

II. *That an endeavour to force submission from one colony, to the payment of taxes not so imposed, is a dangerous attack on the liberty and property of British America, and renders it indispensably necessary that all should firmly unite to resist the common danger.*

III. *It is the opinion of this meeting, that the town of* BOSTON, *in our sister colony of Massachusetts Bay, is now suffering in the common cause of North America, by having its harbour blocked up, its commerce destroyed, and the property of many of its inhabitants violently taken from them, until they submit to taxes not imposed by their consent; and therefore this meeting rejoice,*

IV. *That the inhabitants of this county will most cordially and firmly join with the other counties in this colony, and the other colonies on this continent, or the majority of them, after a short day, hereafter to be agreed on, to stop all exports to Great Britain and the West Indies, and all imports from thence, until as well the act of parliament intituled "An act to discontinue, in such manner and for such time as are therein mentioned, the landing and discharging, lading or shipping of goods, wares, and merchandize, at the town and within the harbour of Boston, in the province of Massachusetts Bay, in North America," as the several acts laying duties on America, for the purpose of raising a revenue, and all the acts of the British legislature made against our brothers of Massachusetts Bay, in consequence of their just opposition to the said revenue acts, are repealed. And it is the opinion of this meeting, that such a nonimporting and nonexporting plan should be quickly entered upon, as will on the evident principle of self-preservation as to relieving our suffering countrymen and fellow subjects in Boston, and to restore between Great Britain and America that harmony so beneficial to the whole empire, and so ardently desired by all America.*

V. *Resolved, it is the opinion of this meeting, that the gentlemen of the law should not (so long as the nonexportation agreement subsists) bring any writ for the recovery of debt, or pass to a conclusion any such suit already brought, is being utterly inconsistent with a nonexportation plan that judgment should be given against those who are deprived of the means of paying.*

VI. *It is resolved, that so soon as the nonexportation agreement begins, we will, every one of us, keep our product, whether tobacco, corn, wheat, or any thing else, unsold, on our own respective plantations, and not carry, or suffer them to be carried, to any public warehouse or landing place, except of grain, where the same be so done, on oath being first made that such grain is for the use or consumption of this or any other colony in North America, and not for exportation from the continent, whilst the said agreement subsists. And this is the more necessary, to prevent a few designing persons from engrossing and buying up our tobacco, grain, &c. when they are low in value, in order to avoid themselves of the very high price that those articles must bear when the ports are open, and foreign markets empty.*

VII. *This meeting do heartily concur with the late representative body of this county to disuse* TEA, *and not purchase any other commodities of the East Indies, except* SALTPETRE, *until the grievances of America are redressed.*

VIII. *We do most heartily concur in those preceding resolves, and promise to the utmost of our power, take care that they are carried into execution; and that we will regard every man as infamous, who now agrees to, and shall hereafter make a breach of, all or any of them, subjects, however, to such future alterations as shall be judged expedient at a general meeting of deputies from the several parts of this colony, or a general congress of all the colonies.*

IX. *We do appoint RICHARD HENRY LEE, and RICHARD LEE, esquires, the late representatives of this county, to attend the general meeting of deputies from all the counties, and we desire that they do exert their best abilities to get these our earnest desires for the security of* [illegible] LIBERTY *agreed to.*

X. *And as it may happen that the assembly, now called to meet on the 17th day of August, may be prorogued to a future day, and many of the deputies appointed to meet on the 1st of August, trusting to the certainty of meeting in assembly on the 17th, may fail to attend on the first, by which means decisive injury may arise to the common cause of liberty, by the general sense of the country not being early known at this dangerous crisis of American freedom, we do therefore direct, that our deputies now chosen fail not to attend at Williamsburg on the said first day of August; and it is our earnest wish, that the deputies from the other counties be directed to do the same for the reasons above assigned.*

XI. *Resolved, that the clerk do forthwith transmit the proceedings of this day to the* PRESS, *and request the printer to publish them without delay.*

By order of the meeting,

JAMES DAVENPORT, *Clerk.*

The business of the day being finished, the company repaired to the tavern, where a dinner was provided, and the following patriotic and loyal TOASTS *were drank.*

1. *GOD bless the KING; may he long reign the king of a free and happy people.*
2. *The QUEEN and ROYAL FAMILY.*
3. *The ENGLISH CONSTITUTION.*
4. *AMERICAN LIBERTY.*
5. *May the brave and virtuous people of BOSTON be quickly relieved from their present DISTRESS.*
6. *UNION of GREAT BRITAIN and the COLONIES.*
7. *Lord CHATHAM.*
8. *Lord CAMBDEN.*
9. *Marquis of ROCKINGHAM.*
10. *Lord SHELBURNE.*
11. *Bishop of St. ASOPH.*
12. *ALL FRIENDS OF AMERICA.*

At a general meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of PRINCE GEORGE county the following RESOLVES were proposed and unanimously agreed to.

RESOLVED, *that we will at all times, whenever we are called upon for that purpose, maintain and defend, at the expence of our lives and fortunes, his majesty's right and title to the crown of Great Britain and his dominions in America, to whose royal person and government we profess all due obedience and fidelity.*

Resolved, that the right to impose taxes or duties to be paid by the inhabitants within this dominion for any purpose whatsoever is peculiar and essential to the general assembly, in whom the legislative authority of the colony is vested.

Resolved, that every attempt to impose such taxes or duties by any other authority is an arbitrary exertion of power, and an infringement of the constitutional rights and liberties of the colony.

Resolved, that to impose a tax or duty upon tea by the British parliament, in which the commons of the North American colonies can have no representation, to be paid upon importation by the inhabitants of the said colonies, is an act of power without right, a subversive of the liberties of the said colonies, deprives them of their property without their own consent, and thereby reduces them to a state of slavery.

Resolved, that the late cruel, unjust, and sanguinary acts of parliament, to be executed by military force and ships of war upon our sister colony of the Massachusetts Bay, and town of BOSTON, *is a strong evidence of the corrupt influence obtained by the British ministry in parliament, and a convincing proof of their fixed intention to deprive the colonies of their constitutional rights and liberties.*

Resolved, that the cause of the town of Boston is the common cause of all the American colonies.

Resolved, that it is the duty and interest of all the American colonies firmly to unite in an indissoluble union and association to oppose, by every just and proper means, the infringment of their common rights and liberties.

Resolved, that a general association between all the American colonies not to import from Great Britain any commodity whatsoever, except negroes cloaths and tools, Irish linens, medicines and paper, ought to be entered into and not dissolved till the just rights of the said colonies are restored to them, and the cruel acts of the British parliament against the Massachusetts Bay and town of Boston are repealed.

Resolved, that no friend to the rights and liberties of America ought to purchase any commodity whatsoever, except as is before excepted, which shall be imported from Great Britain after the general association shall be agreed upon.

Resolved, that every kind of luxury, dissipation, and extravagance, ought to be banished from amongst us.

Resolved, that manufactures ought to be encouraged by opening subscriptions for that purpose, or by any other proper means.

Resolved, that the African trade is injurious to this colony, obstructs the population of it by freemen, prevents manufacturers and other useful emigrants from Europe from settling amongst us, and occasions an annual encrease of the balance of trade against this colony.

Resolved, that the raising sheep, hemp, and flax, ought to be encouraged.

Resolved, that to be cloathed in manufactures fabricated in the colonies ought to be considered as a badge and distinction of respect and true patriotism.

Resolved, that the dissolution of the general assembly, by order of the British ministry, whenever they enter upon the consideration of the rights and liberties of the subject against attempts to destroy them, is an evidence of the fixed intention of the said ministry to reduce the colonies to a state of slavery.

Resolved, that the people of this colony, being by such dissolution deprived of a legal representation, ought to nominate and appoint for every county proper deputies, to meet upon the 1st day of August, in the city of Williamsburg, then and there to consult and agree upon the best and most proper means for carrying into execution these, or any other resolutions, which shall be judged most expedient for the purposes aforesaid.

Resolved, that RICHARD BLAND, *and* PETER POYTHRESS, *esquires, our late worthy representatives, be and they are hereby nominated and appointed deputies, upon the part of the freeholders and inhabitants of this county, to meet such deputies as shall be appointed by the other counties and corporations within this colony, in the city of Williamsburg, upon the 1st day of August next, or at any other time or place for the purposes aforesaid.*

Resolved, that at this important and alarming conjuncture, it be earnestly recommended to the said deputies at the said general convention that they nominate and appoint fit and proper persons, upon the part of this colony, to meet such deputies in a general congress as shall be appointed, upon the part of the other continental colonies in America, to consult and agree upon a firm and indissoluble union and association for preserving, by the best and most proper means, their common rights and liberties.

Resolved, that this colony ought not to trade with any colony which shall refuse to join in any union and association that shall be agreed upon by the greater part of the other colonies upon this continent for preserving their common rights and liberties.

Resolved, that the clerk of this meeting transmit to the printers of both gazettes copies of these resolutions, with the earnest request of this county that the other counties and corporations within the colony will appoint deputies to meet at the time and place, and for the purposes aforesaid.

THEODORICK BLAND, *Clerk of the meeting.*

Extract of a letter from a correspondent in Fredericksburg, *dated* June 2.

"Since my return from Williamsburg last Saturday, I have examined the neighbouring fields of wheat, and am certain that there will be very little damage sustained by the late frost. As some of these fields were injured as much as any in this colony could be, I have hopes that the crops in general must be nearly equal with what was ever expected. I have seen persons from Dinmore, Orange, and Louden [illegible] these counties is exceeding fine. The season has been [illegible] sequences have been favourable; for a wet season would probably have brought on the rust."

An express, which arrived at the PALACE last night from colonel Andrew Lewis and colonel Preston, reports, that three or four families have been lately cut off by the Indians, and that upwards of 300 of those barbarians were discovered, about 30 days ago, by the scouting parties sent out by colonel Lewis, fortifying themselves just beyond Green Briar. It appears that they were well supplied with guns and ammunition of every kind, and that they are very vigorous in getting themselves in as complete readiness as possible. Six hundred of the frontier inhabitants are already raised, and the number is daily encreasing; so that from the activity, prudence, and courage, of colonel Lewis and colonel Preston, and the willingness of the back people to do every thing in their power to serve the country, our case may not be so deplorable as was at first imagined. Another express is hourly expected.

Last Friday Mr. GEORGE ABYVON was elected mayor of the borough of Norfolk.

ACADEMICUS *is received, and will be attended to in our next.*

*** As the MEMBERS of the late HOUSE of BURGESSES have referred the consideration of the important matters recommended to them by some of the northern colonies to the first day of August next, it is expected the members who may be chosen at the ensuing election will not fail to meet at the time appointed. There is no necessity to represent to the public what an appearance it would have to keep them longer in suspence about our determinations.

THE MODERATOR.

A BILL, *for the better regulating the government of the province of the* MASSACHUSETTS BAY, *in* NORTH AMERICA.

WHEREAS by letters patent under the great seal of England, made in the 3d year of the reign of their late majesties king William and queen Mary, for uniting, erecting, and incorporating, the several colonies, territories, and tracts of land, therein mentioned, into one real province, by the name of their majesties province of the MASSACHUSETTS BAY, in NEW ENGLAND, whereby it was, amongst other things, ordained and established, that the governor of the said province should from thenceforth be appointed and commissioned by their majesties, their heirs and successors, it was however granted and ordained, that from the expiration of the term, for and during which the eight and twenty persons named in the said letters patent were appointed to be the first counsellors or assistants to the governor of the said province for the time being, the aforesaid [illegible] 28 counsellors or assistants should yearly once every year, for ever thereafter, be, by the general court or assembly, newly chosen. And whereas the said method of electing such counsellors or assistants, to be vested with the several powers, authorities, and privileges, therein mentioned, although conformable to the practice heretofore used, in such of the colonies thereby united, in which the appointment of the respective governors had been vested in the general courts or assemblies of the said colonies, hath by repeated experience been found to be extremely ill adapted to the plan of government established in the province of the Massachusetts Bay, by the said letters patent herein before mentioned, and hath been so far from contributing to the attainment of the good ends and purposes thereby intended, and to the promoting of the internal welfare, peace, and good government, or to the maintenance of that just subordination to, and conformity with, the laws of Great Britain, that the manner of exercising the powers, authorities, and privileges aforesaid, by the persons so annually elected, hath for some time past been such as had the most manifest tendency to obstruct, and in great measure to defeat the execution of the laws, to weaken the attachment of his majesty's well disposed subjects, in the said province, to his Majesty's government, and to encourage the ill disposed among them to proceed even to acts of direct resistance to, and defiance of, his majesty's authority; and it hath accordingly happened, that an open resistance to the execution of the laws hath actually taken place in the town of Boston, and the neighbourhood thereof, within the said province. And whereas it is, under these circumstances, become absolutely necessary, in order to the preservation of the peace and good order of the said province, the protection of his majesty's well disposed subjects therein resident, the continuance of the mutual benefits arising from the commerce and correspondence between this kingdom and the said province, and the maintaining of the just dependence of the said province upon the crown and parliament of Great Britain, that the said method of annually electing the counsellors or assistants of the said province should no longer be suffered to continue, but that the appointment of the said counsellors or assistants should henceforth be put upon the like footing as is established in such other of his majesty's colonies or plantations in America, the governors whereof are appointed by his majesty's commission under the great seal of Great Britain. Be it therefore enacted, by the king's most excellent majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the lords spiritual and temporal, and commons, in this present parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, that from and after the [illegible] so much of the charter granted by their majesties king William and queen Mary, to the inhabitants of the said province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, and all and every clause, matter, and thing, therein contained, which relate to the time and manner of electing the assistants, or counsellors, for the said province, and all elections and appointments of such counsellors and assistants made in pursuance thereof, shall [illegible] and that from and after the said [illegible] the council or court of assistants of the said province for the time being shall be composed of such of the inhabitants or proprietors of lands within the same, as shall be thereunto nominated and appointed by his majesty, his heirs and successors, by warrant under his or their signet or sign manuel, and with the advice of the privy council, agreeable to the practice now used in respect to the appointment of counsellors in such of his majesty's other colonies in America, the governors whereof are appointed by commission under the great seal of Great Britain; provided that the number of the said assistants or counsellors shall not at any one time exceed [illegible] nor be less than [illegible] And it is hereby further enacted, that the said assistants or counsellors so to be appointed as aforesaid, shall hold their offices respectively, for and during his majesty's pleasure, his heirs or successors, and shall have and enjoy all the powers, privileges, and immunities, at present held, exercised, and enjoyed, by the assistants or counsellors of the said province, constituted and elected from time to time, under the said charter, except as herein after excepted; and shall also, upon their admission into the said council, and before they enter upon the execution of their offices, respectively take the oaths, and make, repeat, and subscribe, the declaration required, as well by the said charter as by any law or laws of said province now in force, to be taken by the assistants or counsellors, which have been so elected and constituted as aforesaid. And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, that from and after the [illegible] it shall and may be lawful for his majesty's governor for the time being, of the said province, or in his absence, for the lieutenant governor to nominate and appoint, under the seal of the province, from time to time, the judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commissioners of oyer and terminer, the attorney general, sheriffs, provost marshals, justices of the peace, and other officers to the council or courts of justice belonging, and to remove the same without the consent of the council; and that all judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commissioners of oyer and terminer, the attorney general, sheriffs, pro[illegible]

marſhals, juſtices, and other officers ſo appointed by the governor, or in his abſence, by the lieutenant governor alone, ſhall and may have, hold, and exerciſe, their ſaid offices, powers, and authorities as fully and completely, to all intents and purpoſes, as any judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commiſſioners of oyer and terminer, attorney general, ſheriffs, provoſts marſhals, or other officers, have or might have done heretofore under the letters patent, in the third year of the reign of their late majeſties king William and queen Mary, any law, ſtatute, or uſage, to the contrary notwithſtanding. Provided always, and be it enacted, that nothing herein contained ſhall extend, or be conſtrued to extend to annul or make void the commiſſion granted before the to any judges of the inferior courts of common pleas, commiſſioners of oyer and terminer, the attorney general, ſheriffs, provoſts marſhals, juſtices of the peace, or other officers; but that they may hold and exerciſe the ſame, as if this act had never been made, until the ſame ſhall be determined by death, removal by the governor, or other avoidance, as the caſe may happen. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that upon every vacancy of the offices of chief juſtice and judges of the ſuperior court of the ſaid province, from and after the the governor for the time being, or in his abſence the lieutenant governor, without the conſent of the council, ſhall have full power and authority to nominate and appoint the perſons to ſucceed to the ſaid offices, who ſhall hold their commiſſions during the pleaſure of his majeſty, his heirs and ſucceſſors; and that neither the chief juſtice and judges appointed before the ſaid nor thoſe who ſhall hereafter be appointed purſuant to this act, ſhall be removed, unleſs by order of his majeſty, his heirs or ſucceſſors, under his or their ſign manual. And be it further enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that the governor, lieutenant governor, chief juſtice, the judges of the ſuperior court, and the ſecretary of the ſaid province, for the time being, ſhall be, and they are hereby appointed, during their continuance in their reſpective offices, juſtices of the peace in and for every county of the ſaid province, and ſhall and may have, hold, and enjoy, all the powers and authorities given to the juſtices of the peace by virtue of their commiſſion, or by any act of the general court of the ſaid province. And whereas by an act of the general court of the ſaid province, made in the fourth year of the reign of their late majeſties king William and queen Mary, intituled "an act for regulating of townſhips, choice of town officers, and ſetting forth their power," the freeholders and inhabitants of the ſeveral townſhips, rateable at twenty pounds eſtate, are authoriſed to aſſemble together, in the month of March in every year, upon notice given by the conſtable, or ſuch other as the ſelect men of the town ſhall appoint, for the choice of ſelect men, conſtables and other officers; and the freeholders and inhabitants are alſo impowered to make and agree upon ſuch neceſſary rules, orders, and bye-laws, for the directing, managing, and ordering, the prudential affairs, and to annex penalties for the non obſervance of the ſame, not exceeding twenty ſhillings for one offence; provided they be not repugnant to the general laws of the ſaid province. And whereas a great abuſe has been made of the power of ſuch meetings, and the inhabitants have, contrary to the deſign of their inſtitution, been miſled to treat upon matters of the moſt general concern, and to paſs many dangerous and unwarrantable reſolves; for remedy whereof, be it enacted, that from and after the no town meeting ſhall be called by the ſelect men, or at the requeſt of any number of freeholders, without the leave of the governor in writing, expreſſing the ſpecial buſineſs of the ſaid meeting, firſt had and obtained, except the annual meeting, in the month of March, for the choice of ſelect men, conſtables, and other officers; and that no other matter ſhall be treated of at ſuch meeting, except the election of their aforeſaid officers, nor at any other meeting, except the buſineſs expreſſed in the leave given by the governor. And whereas, in purſuance of an act of aſſembly of the ſaid province, made in the 7th year of the reign of William the third, and three other acts of aſſembly made in the eleventh year of the ſame reign, jurors, as well grand as petty, have been uſually ſummoned and returned by the conſtables of the ſeveral towns, by virtue of writs or warrants directed to them by the clerks of the ſeveral courts, requiring them to aſſemble the inhabitants of the ſaid towns, to chuſe fit perſons to ſerve as jurors for ſuch towns, and to ſummon and return ſuch perſons ſo choſen; which practice of chuſing jurors, and returning them, without the intervention of the ſheriff, has been found to be detrimental to the adminiſtration of juſtice; be it therefore enacted by the authority aforeſaid, that from and after the next enſuing, ſo much of the ſaid acts of aſſembly, and of all other laws now in force, within the ſaid province, as directs the returns of juries to be made by the conſtables, by an election of the inhabitants of the ſeveral towns, ſhall and all jurors, as well grand as petty, ſhall be returned by the ſheriffs of the ſeveral counties, and no otherwiſe; and the juſtices of the ſuperior court of the ſaid province, at a convenient time before the ſitting of the ſuperior court in every county, and the juſtices of the peace for every county in the ſaid province, at a convenient time before the ſitting of the quarter ſeſſion of ſuch county, ſhall iſſue their precepts or warrants to the ſheriff of ſuch county, for ſuch ſeveral courts reſpectively to ſummon, out of the freeholders and inhabitants of ſuch county qualified to ſerve upon juries, ſuch a number of good and lawful men as ſuch precept or warrant ſhall direct, to ſerve upon the grand jury at ſuch reſpective court; and ſuch perſons ſo ſummoned and returned by the ſaid ſheriff, or ſuch of them as ſhall appear, ſhall be impannelled and ſworn the grand inqueſt for the body of the county, and ſhall continue as ſuch during the ſitting of ſuch reſpective court, and until they ſhall be diſmiſſed by the ſame; and in all indictments, informations, actions, and cauſes depending before the ſuperior court, or any court of quarter ſeſſion, or court of common pleas, in the ſaid province, which ſhall be at iſſue, and ordered for trial, the juries ſhall be ſummoned, impannelled, and returned, by the ſheriff of the county, out of the freeholders and inhabitants of the ſaid county qualified to ſerve upon juries, and ſhall be choſen and arrayed in ſuch manner and form, and by and with ſuch regulations and reſtrictions, as is directed and ordered in and by an act of parliament, made in the ſeventh and eighth years of the reign of his late majeſty king William the third, intituled "an act for the eaſe of jurors, and better regulating of juries;" and one other act, made in the eighth and ninth years of the ſame reign, intituled "an act to enable the returns of juries as formerly, until the firſt day of November, one thouſand ſix hundred and ninety ſeven;" and one other act of parliament, made in the third year of the reign of his late majeſty king George the ſecond, intituled "an act for the better regulation of juries;" and one other act, made in the twenty fourth year of the ſame reign, intituled "an act for the better regulation of trials by jury, and for enlarging the time for trials by niſi prius, in the county of Middleſex." And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that liſts of the freeholders and inhabitants of the ſeveral towns, qualified to ſerve upon juries, ſhall be returned to, and recorded at, the quarter ſeſſions for the ſeveral counties, and ſhall be delivered to the ſeveral ſheriffs in manner and form as directed by the ſaid acts of parliament, or any of them; and until ſuch liſts of ſuch freeholders and inhabitants ſhall be delivered as aforeſaid, the ſheriff of any county ſhall and may ſummon and return fit perſons to ſerve upon juries as aforeſaid, out of the body of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county, qualified to ſerve upon juries, according to his judgment and diſcretion; and whenever the judges of the ſuperior court ſhall award a ſpecial jury to be ſtruck (which they are hereby authorized and impowered to do in ſuch manner as ſpecial juries have been uſually ſtruck in the court at Weſtminſter at trials at bar) and if the ſheriff of the county in which ſuch jury ſhall be awarded, ſhall not have received liſts of the freeholders and inhabitants qualified to ſerve upon juries, as herein before ordered and directed, ſuch ſheriff ſhall attend the proper office of the ſaid court with a liſt of of the principal freeholders and inhabitants of the ſaid county qualified to ſerve upon juries, and the ſaid ſpecial jury ſhall be ſtruck out of the ſaid liſt; and it ſhall and may be lawful for the juſtices of the ſaid ſuperior court, and they are hereby authorized and empowered upon the motion of either of the parties, in any cauſe or action which ſhall be brought to iſſue, to order the ſaid cauſe or action to be tried in any county, other than the county in which the ſaid cauſe or action ſhall have been brought or laid, by a jury of ſuch other county, as they ſhall judge fit and proper, any act of aſſembly or provincial law to the contrary notwithſtanding. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that all clerks of courts, ſheriffs, conſtables, and other perſons within the ſaid province, to whom the ordering, making, delivering, or recording the liſts of the freeholders and inhabitants qualified to ſerve upon juries aforeſaid, ſhall belong or appertain, according to the true intent and meaning of this preſent act, and the ſaid acts hereby referred to, who ſhall be guilty of any wilful neglect, default, or miſfeaſance, in carrying into execution this act, according to its true intent and meaning, ſhall incur and ſuffer ſuch fines and penalties as are ſeverally mentioned in the ſaid acts of parliament hereby referred to; and all perſons who being duly qualified as aforeſaid, ſhall be duly ſummoned to ſerve upon juries in manner aforeſaid, and ſhall not attend ſuch ſervice, ſhall incur and ſuffer ſuch fines and penalties as by the laws of the ſaid province, jurors making default are now ſubject to. And be it further enacted, by the authority aforeſaid, that if any action ſhall be brought againſt any ſheriff, for what he ſhall do in execution, or by virtue of this act, he may plead the general iſſue, and give the ſpecial matter in evidence; and if a verdict ſhall be found for him, he ſhall recover coſts.

F R I D A Y, JULY 1.

This afternoon, at 4 o'clock, the northern poſt arrived; but as he has brought nothing of very great moment, and as our paper is already chiefly filled with the proceedings of this colony, and ſome intereſting pieces relative thereto, we ſhall ſelect only a few articles, which we think the moſt material that have occured ſince our laſt.

The number of governor Hutchinſon's addreſſers, conſiſting of *merchants, ſhopkeepers, pedlars, pettifoggers*, &c. amounted to ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY; and, it is ſaid, great pains were taken throughout Boſton, and many other towns, to procure that number, which muſt certainly appear very contemptible, when it is conſidered, that there are full *four hundred thouſand* inhabitants in that province.

The houſe of repreſentatives of the Engliſh colony of Conpecticut have come into very ſpirited reſolves; they acknowledge all due obedience and loyalty to their ſovereign, that they are ever willing to ſupport him to the utmoſt of their power; but, they ſay, "that the late act of parliament, inflicting pains and penalties on the town of Boſton, by blocking up their harbour, is a precedent juſtly alarming to the Britiſh colonies in America, and wholly inconſiſtent with, and ſubverſive of, their conſtitutional rights and liberties."

General Gage has been addreſſed by a great number of the principal people of Boſton, imploring his kind endeavours to aſſiſt them as far as poſſible in procuring redreſs with reſpect to the Boſton port bill, and, with his uſual benevolence, promiſes every thing to effect ſo deſirable a purpoſe; but as his excellency mentions in his anſwer that he has received particular commands for holding the general court at Salem, "from the 1ſt day of June until his majeſty ſhall have ſignified his royal will and pleaſure for holding it again at Boſton," they have remonſtrated againſt it in the moſt expreſs terms, and declare they are entirely at a loſs for the cauſe of this command, and cannot conceive any public utility ariſing from it, more eſpecially as they and their conſtituents are now ſuffering the greateſt inconveniences in conſequence of the ſame.-----And here follow the reſolves of the houſe of repreſentatives, before they proceeded to buſineſs in Salem, on Wedneſday laſt, which were ordered to be entered on their journals:

Reſolved, that by the royal charter of this province, the power of convening, proroguing, and adjourning, the great and general court or aſſembly, from time to time, is veſted in the governor, to be exerciſed as he ſhall judge neceſſary, and for the good of the people; therefore

Reſolved, that it is clearly the opinion of this houſe, that whenſoever the governor of the province doth convene or hold the general aſſembly at any time or place unneceſſarily, or merely in obedience to an inſtruction, and without exerciſing that judgment and diſcretion of his own, with which by charter he is ſpecially veſted for the good of the province, it is manifeſtly inconſiſtent with the letter, as well as the ſpirit and intention, of the charter.

Reſolved, that the town of Boſton hath, from the earlieſt times of this province, been judged, and ſtill is, on various accounts, the moſt convenient place for holding the general aſſembly, and accordingly ample proviſion is there made for the accommodation of the ſaid general aſſembly, at a very great expence to the people of this province.

Reſolved, as the clear opinion of this houſe, that the general aſſembly cannot be removed from its ancient ſeat, the courthouſe in Boſton, and held in any other place, without great and manifold inconveniencies to the members thereof, and injury and damage to thoſe who have neceſſary buſineſs to tranſact with the ſaid general aſſembly; many of which inconveniencies have been clearly ſtated, and expreſſed by former houſe of repreſentatives, as appear by their journals.

Reſolved, that this houſe can ſee no neceſſity for the removal of the general aſſembly from its ancient and only convenient place, the courthouſe in Boſton, to the town of Salem; and the removal of the ſaid aſſembly from the courthouſe in Boſton, without neceſſity, is at all times to be conſidered a very great grievance.

Laſt Wedneſday his excellency governor Wentworth, of Newhampſhire, ſent the following meſſage to the honourable houſe of repreſentatives, then ſitting at Portſmouth:

Mr. SPEAKER, *and* GENTLEMEN *of the* ASSEMBLY,

"As I look upon the meaſures entered upon by the houſe of aſſembly to be inconſiſtent with his majeſty's ſervice, and the good of this government, it is my duty, as far is in me lies, to prevent any detriment that might ariſe from ſuch proceedings, I do therefore hereby diſſolve the general aſſembly of this province, and it is diſſolved accordingly."

It has been lately propoſed, by ſome writers in England, to have an American LAND TAX, equal to what it is in Great Britain.

The public are hereby aſſured that a paragraph lately publiſhed in Mr. Holt's paper, intimating that Dr. Franklin's ſucceſſor in the general poſtoffice has power to open all letters from the committees of correſpondence in this country is an atrocious falſhood.

The port of Boſton was on Tueſday laſt cleared of every veſſel intended for ſea, it being the day on which the late act of parliament preſcribes that no veſſel, except in his majeſty's ſervice, ſhall be allowed to depart from that port until the king in council may be pleaſed to ſuſpend its operation.

To Mr. BOLLING STARK.

SIR,

IN anſwer to your advertiſement in Mrs. *Rind*'s paper of the 16th inſtant, I can inform you that *James Young*, therein mentioned, died in *Weſtmoreland* county, at the houſe of Mr. *Edward Sanford*, near the courthouſe, in *February* 1765; that Mr. *Sanford*, in the ſame month, adminiſtered on his eſtate, which amounted to no more than 7l. 19s. as appears by the inventory returned in *May* following, and conſiſted of little or nothing but his joiners tools. He died unmarried, and without iſſue. *I am, SIR, your humble ſervant,*

WESTMOREland, *June* 24, 1774. JAMES DAVENPORT.

PURSUANT to a decree of the honourable the general court, and by letter of attorney from Colonel *George Mercer*, of *Virginia*, now in *London*, will be ſold, at public auction, about 3500 ACRES of LAND, in the count, of *Loudoun*, near *Weſt*'s ordinary, about 12 miles from *Leeſburg*, 40 from *Alexandria*, and 35 from *Dumfries*, on *Potowmack*. This LAND is well known by the deſcription of the BULL RUN MOUNTAINS, and is very fertile. Alſo 6500 acres on *Shanandoah* river, in the county of *Frederick*, oppoſite to *Snicker*'s ordinary, and binding on the river about 7 miles. As this tract is part of a ſurvey, one of the firſt in that part of the colony, its quality cannot be queſtioned; it is well watered, will admit of 2 mills on land ſtreams, and others on the river. There are now in it 6 plantations, well improved for cropping, 110 ſlaves, and very large and choice ſtocks of horſes (ſome of the dray breed) black cattle, hogs, and ſheep, which, together with the crops of corn and wheat now growing (expected to be upwards of 2000 barrels, and 5000 buſhels) will be ſold, on the premiſes, on the 24th of *November* next, or next fair day. The *Loudoun* lands will be ſold at *Weſt*'s ordinary on the 21ſt day of the ſame month, and both tracts laid off in lots to ſuit every kind of purchaſer, who may ſee them by applying to Mr. *Francis Peyton*, living near the *Loudoun* lands, and Mr. *William Dawſon*, who reſides on the *Shanandoah* tract. Among the ſlaves are two good blackſmiths, two carpenters, and an exceeding truſty and ſkilful waggoner. The aged black cattle and grown hogs will be fattened for ſlaughter. Purchaſers above 25 pounds will be allowed credit for 12 months, on giving bond and ſecurity to the ſubſcribers, who will be prepared to make conveyances.

JOHN TAYLOE,
GEORGE WASHINGTON.

NORFOLK, *June* 20, 1774.

WHEREAS the concern of *Hector Mac Alester* and company was diſſolved on the firſt inſtant, the partners thereof, from a deſire of bringing their affairs to a ſpeedy concluſion, once more requeſt all perſons indebted to them to make immediate payment, either to *Robert Donald*, of *Warwick*, or the ſubſcriber, in *Norfolk*; and as it is not in their power to extend farther the indulgence which, for a long time, has been granted to many, they hope that due regard will be paid to this application. Thoſe who have any demands againſt the ſaid concern are deſired to make them known, that they may be adjuſted and paid. The ſubſcriber will continue to do buſineſs in this place on his own account, and ſolicits the favours of his friends.

2 HECTOR MAC ALESTER.

FOR SALE,

TWO thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy five ACRES of LAND in *Gloucester* county, lying in *Petſworth* pariſh, upon which there is a very good mill on an excellent ſtream of water. It will be laid off in lots for the convenience of purchaſers; and as it is entailed land, application will be made to the next general aſſembly for an act to dock the entail. Mr. *Lewis Booker* will ſhew the land, and make known the terms. WILSON M. CARY.

TO BE SOLD, UPON LONG CREDIT,

NINE hundred ACRES of good corn LAND, lying within three miles of *Suſſex* courthouſe; it is well timbered, &c. Alſo five hundred and eighty two ACRES of very valuable LAND, lying in *Brunſwick* county, near *Sweed*'s *Bridge*. On it is a good dwellinghouſe, and ſeveral neceſſary out houſes; the plantation is in good order for cropping, with ſix or eight hands. Thoſe inclined to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to the ſubſcriber, living on the laſt mentioned premiſes. W. MASON.

1

To be SOLD, on Thurſday the 1ſt of September, at Hanover courthouſe,

A TRACT of LAND in Hanover county, containing 795 acres, adjoining the lands of Mr. Trueheart and Mr. Geddes Winſton, is about 14 miles from Page's warehouſe, and about twelve from the town of Richmond. There is a large quantity of excellent pine timber upon it, the ſoil is good for wheat and Indian corn, and the whole is divided into lots of 265 acres each, for the convenience of purchaſers. Credit will be allowed until October 1775, the purchaſers giving bond and ſecurity; and the bonds to carry intereſt from the date, if not diſcharged when they become due.

KINGSMILL, June 22, 1774. } LEWIS BURWELL, LEWIS BURWELL, junior, ANNE CAMPBELL.

3

To be SOLD, *on* Thurſday *the 7th of* July, *at the houſe wherein Mrs.* Mary Singleton *lives, in* Williamſburg,

THE HOUSHOLD FURNITURE of the late Mr. *Richard Hunt Singleton*. Credit will be allowed till *November* next for all ſums above TWENTY SIX SHILLINGS, the purchaſer giving bond and approved ſecurity. ()

FOR SALE,

TWO thouſand ACRES of exceeding fine LAND for tobacco, wheat, or *Indian corn*, lying on both ſides of *Bull Run*, in *Loudoun* and *Prince William*, about 300 acres of which are rich low ground and meadow land. It lies within four miles of two merchant mills, and about ten miles of two other merchant mills in *Loudoun*; thirty miles from *Colcheſter*, *Alexandria*, and *Dumfries*. If any perſon or perſons incline to purchaſe the whole, or any part of the ſaid lands, they may be ſhewn them, and know the terms, by applying to captain *Francis Peyton*, in *Loudoun* county, who has full power to treat for the ſame, or to the ſubſcriber. It is laid off in lots of two, three, and four hundred acres, with an equal quantity of low ground and meadow land to each lot.

(1 m tf) ROBERT BURWELL.

YORK, *June* 26, 1774.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, about a fortnight ago, a mulatto fellow named CORNELIUS, who is well known in *York*, *Glouceſter*, and moſt counties in *Virginia*, having travelled with me for ſeveral years through different parts of the colony. When he firſt eloped it was imagined he would have gone to *Carolina*; but within theſe ten days he was met about 3 miles from *Glouceſter* town, in company with a mulatto woman of Mr. *Dodmore*'s, of *York*, who is ſaid to be his wife. Whoever apprehends the above mentioned fellow, and will deliver him to me, ſhall receive THREE POUNDS reward, over and above what is allowed by act of aſſembly.

3 J. H. NORTON.

RUN away on the 16th inſtant (*June*) from the ſubſcriber in *Auguſta*, a negro man named BACCHUS, a thick, ſtrong, well made fellow, about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, 30 years of age; took with him two white ruffia drill coats, one turned up with blue, the other is quite new, plain made, with white figured metal buttons; alſo a pair of blue plush breeches, a fine cloth pompadour waiſtcoat, two or three thin or ſummer jackets, ſundry pair of white thread ſtockings, 5 or 6 white ſhirts, two of them pretty fine, neat ſhoes, ſilver buckles, a fine hat, cut and cocked in the macaroni figure, a double milled drab great coat, and ſundry other wearing apparel. He formerly belonged to Doctor *George Pitt*, in *Williamſburg*, and I imagine is gone there, under pretence of my ſending him upon buſineſs, as I have frequently heretofore done. He is cunning, artful, and ſenſible, and very capable of forging a tale to impoſe on the unwary, is well acquainted with the lower parts of the country, having conſtantly rode with me for ſome years paſt, and has been uſed to waiting from his infancy. He was ſeen a few days before he went off with a purſe of dollars, and had juſt changed a 5l. bill; moſt or all of which, I ſuppoſe, he muſt have robbed me of, which he might eaſily have done, as I truſted him much, and placed too great a confidence in his fidelity. It is probable he may endeavour to paſs as a free man, by the name of *John Chriſtian*, and endeavour to get on board ſome veſſel bound for *Great Britain*, from a knowledge he has of the late determination of *Somerſet*'s caſe. Whoever takes up the ſaid ſlave, and delivers him to me, ſhall receive FIVE POUNDS.

4 GABRIEL JONES.

TEN POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, near the fourth branch of *Meherrin* river, in *Mecklenburg* county, a negro man named BOB, about 5 feet 9 inches high, 26 years old, *Virginia* born, is very ſenſible, has bad teeth, ſpeaks very hoarſe, and has a ſmall mark on his upper lip; his forehead, which is fleſhy, hangs much over his eyes, and makes a dent in his noſe joining his forehead. He is a little bow-legged, and his feet are large; can make ſhoes, play on the fiddle, and is fond of ſinging with it; he paſſes as a free man, and calls himſelf ROBERT CHAVERS. He broke *Norfolk* gaol in *May* laſt, was ſeen at *Craney Iſland*, and is ſuppoſed to be gone towards *Hampton*. Whoever delivers him to me ſhall have the above reward, or FIVE POUNDS to ſecure him in any gaol, ſo that I get him again. I forewarn all maſters of veſſels from taking him out of the colony at their peril.

(2) RICHARD WITTON.

STRAYED from the ſubſcriber, in *Hanover* county, ſome time in *April* laſt, a black horſe colt, 2 years old laſt ſpring, about 4 feet 2 or 3 inches high, neither cut, docked, or branded, and is rather ſlender made. I imagine he is up the country, as he was ſeen that way, in company with a black beaſt. Whoever will deliver him to me ſhall have TWENTY SHILLINGS, beſides what the law allows.

3 AUGUSTINE LONGAN.

TAKEN up, near *Naylor's Hole*, an old roan ſorrel horſe, about 4 feet 7 inches high, with a large ſtar in his forehead, both hind feet white, has a lump a little below the hock of his left hind leg, which occaſions him to limp, a ſhort ſprig tail, and ſmall thin mane, but no perceivable brand. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l. 10s.

FAUNTLEROY DYE.

TAKEN up, in *Eſſex*, a middle ſized grey horſe, about four feet ſeven or eight inches high, paces and trots, is rather dull, and branded on the near buttock . Poſted, and appraiſed to 11l.

3 JOHN EDMONDSON, junior.

TAKEN up, in *Goochland*, a white mare, 4 feet 7 inches high, about 10 years old, branded on the near buttock T A, is a little headbitten, has a hanging mane and ſwitch tail, and is in good order. Poſted, and appraiſed to 12l. () RICHARD WADE.

TAKEN up, in the fork of *Robiſon* river, *Culpeper* county, a dark bay horſe, about 4 feet 9 inches high, branded on the near ſhoulder I, and on the near buttock G, has a ſmall ſtar in his forehead, and appears to be old. Poſted, and appraiſed to 3l.

() JOHN JACKSON.

WILLIAMSBURG, June 20, 1774.

LOST, a WARRANT, under the hand and ſeal of his excellency the earl of Dunmore, granted to Edward Wilkinſon, and by him aſſigned to me, for 200 acres of land in Auguſta, on the weſtern waters, directed to the ſurveyor of that county. Any perſon that will deliver the ſame to Mr. James Southall, of this city, or to me, in Berkeley county, ſhall have 20s. The public are hereby warned againſt taking a conveyance of the ſaid warrant; and the ſeveral ſurveyors are requeſted to obſerve this advertiſement. 2† R. RUTHERFORD.

NORFOLK, June 13, 1774.

THE *ſubſcribers have for* SALE MADEIRA *WINE*, BARBADOS *RUM, CANE, SPIRIT, and* MUSCOVADO *SUGAR*.

PHRIPP and BOWDOIN.

To be SOLD cheap, for ready money,

A FOUR WHEELED SULKEY,

for a ſingle horſe; alſo a horſe for the ſaddle or chaiſe, but would beſt ſuit a lady's riding. Enquire of the printer.

Warwick, June 15, 1774.

I INTEND to leave the colony ſoon.

§ JAMES RIDDELL.

TO BE SOLD,

A TRACT of LAND in Berkley and Frederick counties, containing 12,076 acres; it lies 7 miles on each side of Shenando river, the quantity on the east side, being only a slip of low ground, is inconsiderable; the quality of the land is remarkably good, and the conveniencies attending it great. There are two plentiful streams of water running through marshes three miles in length, some of which are already reclaimed meadows, and the rest, at a very small expence, might soon be reduced to the like state. On each side of the streams mills might be erected and furnaces, the land affording stone, lime, iron, and lead ore. On one of the streams I have already erected a complete merchant mill, with a pair of the best French burrs for grinding of wheat, and a pair of common stones for grinding of Indian corn; besides this, there is near the dwelling house a tub mill, and on the other stream there is a valuable saw mill. There are five settled and improved plantations; on one of them is a good stone house, 2 stories high, with 2 rooms on a floor, a kitchen, dairy, and all other convenient outhouses; on another plantation, where Michael Pike lived, there is a good stone house; and at the other plantations there are overseers houses, negro quarters, barns, stables, tobacco houses, &c. The above tract shall be either partitioned off in lots of 1000 or 500 acres, or sold bodily to one purchaser. Belonging to this estate there are 112 negroes to be disposed of, together with all the stocks of cattle, equal to any in the colony, horses, mares, colts, hogs, &c. likewise all the necessary implements for the planter or farmer. Any person or persons inclinable to purchase are desired to make their proposals to me at Rosegill, on Rappahannock river, or to leave them with the overseer, who lives at the house plantation, and will shew the land. In November I shall be on the premises, and may then be personally treated with. Part of this land, and some of the negroes, belong to my eldest son, who leaves to me the disposition thereof, and will confirm any engagement I enter into on his part.

6 RALPH WORMELEY.

NOTICE is hereby given that there are now remaining in Osborne's warehouse, in Chesterfield county, ten hogsheads of tobacco (numbers, weights, and names, as follow) which have been inspected upwards of 3 years.

No.	Gr.	Ta.	Nett.	Planters names.
541	1300	143	1157	Joseph Friend, a note out.
701	1213	128	1085	James R. Bradby.
1270	1170	132	1038	John Hill (P. Edward) a note out.
1864	1063	121	942	Hen. Cox (Charlotte) a note out.
2147	1000	141	859	John Noel (AB) item. hogshead.
2159	1028	107	921	Mrs. Anne Booker (Wentenham)
2828	1263	127	1136	John Pleasant.
2842	1007	120	887	Drury Thompson.
2921	1157	114	1043	Hen. Cox (Charlotte) a note out.
2963	1300	113	1187	Lewis Shelton.

Edwards & Graves.

FOR SALE,

A TRACT of LAND containing 456 acres, lying in the upper end of Hanover county, on the main road that leads from Hanover town to the mountains, on which is a good dwelling house, and several out houses. The plantation is in good order, and sufficient to work 5 or 6 hands. The terms may be known by applying to Mr. David Anderson, of Hanover, who will shew the land, or to the subscriber, in Albemarle.

4‡ RICHARD ANDERSON.

FOR SALE,

A WELL accustomed ORDINARY in the town of Blandford, which has always rented for 75l. a year, it having many valuable improvements and conveniencies. Any person inclining to view the premises, and to be acquainted with the terms, may apply to the subscriber near said town; who will also dispose of the houshold and kitchen furniture, if it suits the purchaser.

3 JOHN BUTLER, senior.

YORK TOWN, June 16, 1774.

RUN away last night from the ship London, at anchor before this town, William Beckly, and Ned, or Margate, two young seamen belonging to the said ship, who also stole the jolly boat, and some provisions; the boat has the ship's name on some part of her and on the oars, is painted white, has a white bottom, and is very small. A reward of 20s. will be given for the sailors and the same for the boat, besides what the law allows upon their being brought to the ship.

MOSES ROBERTSON.

RUN away from the subscriber, about the 20th of April last, a mulatto fellow named Peter Brown, a painter by trade, but can do carpenter's work; he is 35 or 40 years of age, of a dark complexion, five feet eight or nine inches high, slim made, and has a thin visage, has lost several of his upper foreteeth, is fond of singing, and can sing well. The said fellow has several suits of clothes, therefore I cannot describe his dress. He was some years past tried for a robbery, but obtained the governor's pardon on suffering one year's imprisonment; after that he was sold to Mr. John Fox, of Gloucester, with whom he lived one or two years; he then run away, and passed for a free man in the counties of King William, Caroline, and Hanover, where he was taken up and brought home. As he has a wife at Mr. Benjamin Hubbard's, it is likely he may be lurking in that neighbourhood, and as he was raised in Petersburg, it is very probable he may be in those parts. Whoever will take up the said runaway, and deliver him to me, at Osborne's, shall receive FORTY SHILLINGS reward.

PETERFIELD TRENT.

*** All persons are forbid harbouring or carrying him out of the colony. 3

AS I purpose giving up the charge of the store now under my management at Petersburg, on account of Mess. William Cuningham and company, of Glasgow, to Mr. Alexander Hanburgh, on the 1st of September next, I beg the favour of all those who have had dealings with me on account of the above mentioned company, to settle their accounts before that time, and grant bond, or some other specialty, that no dispute may arise thereafter. The store will be supplied with goods, and carried on to the same extent as usual, by Mr. Hanburgh.

3 THOMAS GORDON.

TAKEN up, in Bedford, a small dark bay, or black horse, about 9 or 10 years old, about 4 feet 10 inches high, branded on the near shoulder W P, and on the near buttock W, trots and paces, has a hanging mane and switch tail, is shod all round, and has some saddle spots. 6 JOHN CLARK.

TAKEN up, in Pittsylvania, a dark bay gelding, 5 years old, 14 hands high, branded X on the near shoulder, and something resembling the same mark on the near buttock, but is scarcely perceivable, and is shod before with shoes remarkably broad, has a small star in his forehead, and a saddle spot on each side. Posted, and appraised to 10l. Also a brindle cow, 10 years old, marked with a crop in the left ear, and appraised to 2l. Likewise a red heifer, with a white face, about 3 years old, unmarked, and appraised to 1l. 10s.

PETER COPLAND.

TAKEN up, in Pittsylvania, a dark grey gelding, branded S H on the near shoulder, and H S on the near buttock, about 7 years old, 4 feet 5 inches high, and had on a bell and collar. Appraised to 7l. 10s. AMBROSE JONES.

TAKEN up, in Hanover county, near the Fork Church, a black heifer, with a mealy nose, about three years old, not marked. Posted, and appraised to 1l. JOHN HENDRICK.

TAKEN up, in Bedford, a mouse coloured mare, about 2 years old, 4 feet 4 inches high, one half of her off hind foot white, docked, but not branded. Appraised to 8l. *Alexander Butler.*

To be SOLD, at BELVOIR,

THE seat of the honourable George William Fairfax, esquire, in Fairfax county, on Monday the 15th of August next (pursuant to his direction) all his HOUSHOLD and KITCHEN FURNITURE of every kind, consisting of beds and their furniture, tables and chairs, and every other necessary article, mostly new, and very elegant. Ready money will be expected from every purchaser under five pounds, and twelve months credit allowed those who exceed that sum, upon their giving bond, with approved security; to carry interest from the date if the money is not paid within forty days after it becomes due.

6 FRANCIS WILLIS, junior.

To be RENTED,

FROM YEAR TO YEAR, OR FOR A TERM OF YEARS,

BELVOIR,

THE beautiful seat of the honourable George William Fairfax, esquire, lying upon Potowmack river, in Fairfax county, about 14 miles below Alexandria. The mansion house is of brick, two story high, with four convenient rooms and a large passage upon the lower floor, five rooms and a passage on the second, and a servants hall and cellars below; convenient offices, stables, and coach house, adjoining, as also a large and well furnished garden, stored with great variety of valuable fruits, in good order. Appertaining to the tract on which these improvements are, and which contains near 2000 acres (surrounded, in a manner, by navigable water) are several valuable fisheries, and a good deal of cleared land in different parts, which may be let altogether, or separately, as shall be found most convenient. The terms may be known of Colonel Washington, who lives near the premises, or of me, in Berkeley county,

tf FRANCIS WILLIS, junior.

To be SOLD, pursuant to an act of assembly, on Monday the 1st of August next, being Prince William court day,

THE glebe lands of Dettingen parish, in the said county, adjoining the lands of the present incumbent the reverend James Scott, situate on Quantico Run, about 9 miles from Dumfries, and containing about 400 acres. The soil is good for wheat or tobacco, and there may be got a considerable quantity on the same.

3 HENRY LEE, LEWIS RENO, } churchwardens.

To be SOLD, to the highest bidder, at Goochland courthouse, on Monday the 18th of July, being court day,

A TRACT of rich, well timbered LAND, lying opposite to Elk Island, in Goochland county, belonging to the estate of Mr. John Smith, deceased, containing 2000 acres, which will be put up in four separate lots. Likewise a tract containing between 3 and 400 acres, lying on both sides of the Little Bird creek, near the head thereof, in the aforesaid county. Those lands having been fully described in a former advertisement renders it unnecessary here. The time of payment will be made known on the day of sale, and bonds, with good security, required of the purchasers.

9 WILLIAM ANDERSON, executor.

†‡† The meeting of the merchants in Williamsburg, having prevented me from attending on the 20th of June, it may be necessary to assure the public that the above mentioned land will certainly be sold on the day now appointed. The purchasers at the different sales of the slaves and personal estates of Joseph and John Smith, deceased, are desired to take notice, that their bonds will carry interest from the date, if not paid by the 1st of July, which, added to the distressed situation of those estates, I hope, will induce them to make immediate payment.

NORFOLK, April 21, 1774.

NOTICE is hereby given, that a number of vessels will be wanted this summer to bring about 6000 tons of stone from Mr. Brooke's quarry, on Rappahannock, and land the same on Cape Henry, for the lighthouse. Any person inclinable to engage in such work are desired to treat with Matthew Phripp, Paul Loyall, and Thomas Newton, junior, esquires. The directors of the lighthouse will also be glad to purchase one or two flat bottomed vessels from 80 to 120 tons burthen.

tf BASSETT MOSELEY.

THE clearing the Seven Island falls, in James river, will be let to the lowest bidder, on the 3d Thursday in August next, at which time any person inclinable to undertake the same may depend on meeting a sufficient number of trustees at the place, who will pay down one half of the money, upon the undertaker's giving bond and security for the performance of the same.

For SALE,

A TRACT of land, on Charles river, York county, containing about 600 acres, part of which is marsh, that may be drained with very little expence. The situation of this place is very convenient for a family, as it lies upon a river that abounds with oysters and fine fish, particularly sheepsheads; it is within 200 yards of a mill, and 2 miles of the church. My reason for selling it is, my having bought a tract of land more convenient to me. Whoever inclines to purchase may know the terms by applying to the subscriber, in York town.

THOMAS NELSON, junior.

FOR SALE,

And to be ENTERED upon at CHRISTMAS next,

A VERY valuable tract of LAND in King William county, on Pamunkey river, adjoining the land of the late Mr. John Smith, of Hanover county, deceased, containing 800 acres, more or less, the soil is very rich, and exceedingly well adapted for wheat, corn, or tobacco, particularly the first and second, being low grounds; and there is a considerable quantity of high grounds. It has plenty of good pine and oak timber upon it, convenient houses, and is in good order for cropping, is about two miles from Hanover town, and very convenient to church and two mills. Any person inclinable to purchase may be shewn the land by applying to Mr. Christopher Taliaferro, or Mr. William Jones, who resides near the same, and the terms may be also known by applying to these gentlemen, or to the subscriber.

tf THOMAS JONES.

To be SOLD, on the premises, on the third Thursday in June next,

THE very profitable ORDINARY, belonging to the subscriber, at King William courthouse, with 600 acres of very valuable LAND adjoining to it. The place is so well known that it is unnecessary to describe it, or to point out the advantage of its situation, which is so central that it is daily resorted by travellers from all parts; so that it has constant custom. The ordinary, and some small tenements on the land, have rented for 170l. a year, and are now well worth 200l. a year, or more. The purchaser may have possession the first day of November next, and is to pay one fifth of the purchase money that day, and one other fifth annually after, until the whole is satisfied. Bond, with good security, for the payment thereof, must be given to the subscriber, who will treat privately with any person inclined to purchase before the day of sale.

JOHN QUARLES.

To be SOLD, together or in parcels,

THAT fertile and well timbered tract of LAND, lying in Princess Anne county, known by the name of GIBBS's WOODS, whereon are several settlements, and whereof Jeremiah Tinker, esquire, grandson of the late governor Gibbs now stands seized, under the deed of gift of his mother, the daughter and heiress of the said governor Gibbs. Persons inclining to purchase may be informed of the terms by applying to Mr. James Parker, merchant in Norfolk, or to Edward Foy, in Williamsburg, who will give an undoubted title. tf

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To be SOLD, and entered upon immediately,

A TRACT of LAND containing 1300 acres, more or less, on Piankatank river, in Glocester county. It is needless to be particular about it as it is the same I advertised last year and then gave a full account of it, since then I sold it to John Attway Clarke, of Maryland, but as he refuses to take it, necessity obliges me once more to offer it to the public. Any person inclinable to purchase may know the terms by applying to me in Middlesex. I want part of the money at the meeting of the merchants, and for the remainder I will give reasonable credit. tf AUGUSTINE SMITH.

FOR SALE, AND VERY CHEAP,

A PLANTATION in good order for cropping, none of the land having been cleared above six years, with all necessary houses, quite new, together with 1500 acres of exceeding rich land, the soil of which is so good that it will bring large tobacco for five or six years without dung. I have made on this plantation above three thousand pounds of tobacco per share. The place is very healthy, and has a fine range for stock. This land lies in the lower end of Buckingham county, near to Appomattox river, on each side of Great Ducker's and Mayo creeks. Tobacco has been carried above this land near to Petersburg by water, and last month, in the dry weather, two canoe loads of wheat were carried near to Petersburg, and the canoes brought back; they were loaded but a little below this land. I make no doubt but Appomattox river will be soon cleared, and then the expence of sending wheat, tobacco, &c. will be trifling. Any person inclinable to purchase will see, by the produce of the land, that it is exceeding rich. I really do not know any better high land in the colony. This tract of land is well timbered, and has excellent water on it. I do not know a better place for a merchant mill than is on Ducker's creek. People are going much on raising wheat in these parts, and a good mill would be very advantageous to the owner. Also another tract of land of 826 acres, in Albemarle county, I believe about ten miles from the courthouse, joining Mr. James Harris and the quarters of Mr. John Winston. On this land is a small plantation, a good apple orchard, &c. The land is good, and my price so low, that I am convinced any person who viewed either of the above tracts of land would not hesitate to give the price I shall ask. Neither of these tracts are under any incumbrance whatsoever, reasonable time of payment will be allowed.

tf ANTHONY WINSTON.

I FIND it necessary to give this public notice, that Jasper Manduit Gidley was dismissed from being my collector in September last, and that no receipts given by the said Gidley for money on my account, since that time, will be allowed by me; and I request the favour of the gentlemen of the law, in the different counties, to retain in their own hands any bonds or accounts of mine delivered them by the said Gidley, either before or after September last, and be kind enough to let me know, by a line, what steps they have taken on such bonds and accounts. THOMSON MASON.